

# BEAVERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

# GENERAL ORDER

NUMBER: 6.05.00  
SUBJECT: LESS LETHAL MUNITIONS  
EFFECTIVE: JULY 23, 2010  
REVIEW: JULY 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

1. PURPOSE. Less lethal munitions are another use of force alternative that may be used in certain circumstances to de-escalate a potentially dangerous situation, providing a reduced potential for death or serious physical injury to all persons involved.

2. DEFINITION. Less lethal munitions refer to flexible projectiles that are fired from a Remington 870 12 gauge shotgun or PENN ARMS 40MM multi-launcher. Less lethal munitions are designed to deliver kinetic energy over an extended distance and impart an incapacitating less lethal impact to the target.

- A. Less lethal munitions are department issued items, and are to be issued and used only by department personnel trained in the specific system being deployed.
- B. The less lethal 12 gauge munitions will be carried in designated, plainly marked 870 Remington shotguns. Orange plastic front/rear stocks will designate these weapons as less lethal weapons. No other 12 gauge ammunition will be carried for or used in these weapons.
- C. The less lethal 40MM munitions will be carried in the PENN ARMS 40MM pump-action multi-launcher. No other 40 MM ammunition will be carried for or used in the PENN ARMS launchers.
- D. Members may use less lethal munitions at the same level of force where other impact weapons are justified.
- E. The use of less lethal munitions is considered serious physical control when deployed to areas of the suspect's body that are considered unlikely to cause death or serious physical injury.
- F. Less lethal munitions can be considered deadly force if intentionally deployed at a location recognized as likely to cause death or serious physical injury.

- G. The use of less lethal munitions are not mandatory when the developing situation does not allow the necessary circumstances or time for the member(s) to transition to the deployment of less lethal munitions.
- H. The number of less lethal munitions utilized shall be restricted to that amount the member reasonably believes necessary to de-escalate the situation.
- I. Suspects who are struck with less lethal munitions shall be transported to a medical facility for examination.
- J. Members who discharge a less lethal munition at a suspect shall make verbal notification to the duty supervisor as soon as possible, and will submit a Beaverton Police Department (BPD) Physical Control Report and a written narrative detailing the circumstances of its use prior to the end of their shift. A Physical Force Incident Review shall be conducted by the Physical Force Review Committee as described in Beaverton Police Department General Order 6.02.00.

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Chief of Police

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Date